



COMMITTEE: Oneida County Fair Planning Team

PLACE: UW-Extension Conference Room, Lower Level, Airport Terminal
3375 Airport Road, Rhinelander, WI 54501

DATE: January 5, 2016 **TIME:** 5:30 pm

Members Present: Jim Intrepidi, Nancy Gehrig, Theresa Seabloom, Eric Britton, Tom Peterson, Jim Perlberg, Kathy Silbernagel, Jean Platek, Tom Rawski

Absent: Evie Virgilio

Excused: LeRoy Eades, Aprelle Rawski

Others Present: Brian Gehrig, Mary Freudenburg

MINUTES:

1. **Call to Order and President's Announcements:** The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by President Jim Intrepidi. The meeting was properly posted and the facility is handicap accessible. No announcements.
2. **Approve Agenda for Today's Meeting:** A motion to approve the agenda was made by Peterson, seconded by Silbernagel. Motion carried.
3. **Approve Minutes of December 1, 2015:** A motion was made by Perlberg to accept the December 1st minutes, seconded by Peterson. Motion carried.
4. **Administrative Report:**
 - **Financial Report:** Aprelle Rawski was excused and not present for the meeting. Therefore, no financial report was given.
 - **Approve Coordinator Salary:** The 2016 Coordinator Salary is set up, per Lynn Feldman and County Attorney Brian Desmond, in the amount of \$14,000. A motion was made by Peterson, seconded by Perlberg, to approve the Coordinator Salary of 2016. Motion carried. Nancy Gehrig brought up the issue of insurance that she has been required to pay for herself in the past: wondering if she really needs it and if it even covers her. Intrepidi has agreed to go with Nancy and meet with Brian Desmond to see if she needs to purchase this or not.
 - **2016 Budget Update:** Feldman was not able to attend the meeting so there was no in-depth reporting from the Planning Team. Gehrig reported the averaged value of in-kind advertising/donations/sponsorship comes to \$23,000 so far. There may be more numbers to come, such as donated printing, which she will provide soon. This will continue on the agenda for the next meeting.
 - **Coordinator Update:**
 - Nancy Gehrig reported receiving the 2015 Winter Tourism Room Tax in the amount of \$400, which in the past has usually been \$1,000. The reasoning was in the way the Tourism Committee distributed the monies, but will result in the loss of much needed funds for the Fair.
 - Gehrig sought information from the Committee about using UB the Band in Family Land again this year. After discussion it was decided to try something different this year for variety and also to help reduce the cost of Entertainment. Other ideas for Family Land will be considered.
 - Gehrig reported getting a bill from the McNaughton Camp for work they did for us in 2015. A motion was made by Silbernagel, seconded by Tom Rawski, to pay the amount of \$329.12 to cover the bill. Motion carried.
5. **Fair Convention in WI Dells Jan 10-13, 2016:** The Fair Convention will not be attended by our Committee this year. Nancy Gehrig cannot get off work at Nicolet College during that time, and others are not able or not wanting to attend. The attendance in the past has proved to be helpful and of value, but it also will save some money by not attending this year.
6. **Chamber Annual Dinner on Jan 28, 2016:** This was discussed whether to attend or not. The Fair did not attend in 2015, but the idea to represent the Fair to the community and to the Chamber was felt important. A motion was made by Peterson, seconded by Tom Rawski, to pay \$175 for a table of eight to be attended by Fair Committee members. Motion carried. The table will be decorated in a Fair theme.

7. **Admission Charge:** The main issue is how to make the Fair sustainable. One recommendation by the County Board has been to charge an admission. More discussion took place, concluding that with all the obstacles, we don't see a way to do it. Some of the many issues are with handling money, needing many reliable volunteers at all entrances throughout all Fair hours, no fencing, controlling lines, and can you even close a public park? This would be a daunting undertaking that the Committee does not want to take on. However, it will be kept on the agenda so we "explore all options". It was suggested we use signage at the donation boxes that say "help keep the Fair free" to impress upon the Fair-goers the need to donate.

8. **Beverage Garden Update:** The Fair is still considering whether we can run the Beverage Garden now that DRI cannot. Feldman informed the Committee that we could (per Brian Desmond), but we would have to pay for insurance and also need to use licensed bartenders to serve liquor. Nancy Gehrig has contacted the president of the Tavern League to see if they would want to manage it during the Fair. They will meet soon and address this possibility. This will be continued at the February meeting. It was acknowledged that DRI had made approximately \$4000 profit doing this.

9. **Dog Issue:** Nancy Gehrig met with Chief Mike Steffens regarding what we can do regarding the Dog Issue. It was suggested that because it has happened only one time in six years, and how dogs are involved in Fair events, and the many dog owners who bring them to the Fair, we should leave things as they are and continue permitting dogs on the Fair grounds, providing they are well managed on a leash. It was insisted then that we keep the grounds heavily posted, (as well as on the website, and at all the gates, and in the media), signage saying that "if unruly, cannot bring dog". It was still wondered, though, who would be liable if damage by a dog should take place. Aprelle Rawski said she would look into that.

10. **Strategic Planning Process:** Feldman was not able to attend the meeting to give an update.

11. **Need Team Leaders For Different Areas:** A list will be created to sign up at next meeting.

12. **Discuss New Event Ideas for 2016 Fair:** Some new ideas mentioned were to use a lawnmower race as a spectator event, also bicycle races, remote car racing, and even having a drone demonstration. Without UB the Band for Family Land, some ideas to use local groups to help entertain or provide events in that area were mentioned to use. Nothing was determined as yet.

13. **Correspondence:** (Specifically addressed to Committee). None to report.

14. **Public Comment (3 minute limit):** None

15. **Items of Discussion to be Included on Next Agenda:** Admission Charge, Dog Issue, Beverage Garden Update, Strategic Planning Progress, Budget Update, Chamber Annual Dinner, Entertainment Report, and other items to be provided at the next meeting .

16. **Date of Future Meeting:** Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 5:30 pm at the UW-Extension conference room at the airport.

17. **Adjournment:** A motion was made by Peterson, seconded by Britton, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Theresa Seabloom, Secretary

Signed by President _____

Or Vice-President _____

Or 2nd Vice-President _____